

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARIS 07607 022011Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 PA-02 AF-10 /035 W
-----092232 030611Z /20
R 021929Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8047

UNCLAS PARIS 07607

USIAC

FOR IOP/M, IAA, IPS/PA
FROM ARS

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: HORN OF AFRICA

1. "AFRICA"(LONDON) CARRIES EDITORIAL TITLED "A STITCH
IN TIME..." BY CHIEF EDITOR RAPH UWECHUE IN MARCH ISSUE.
EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

2.OFFICIAL DENIALS NOTWITHSTANDING, THERE IS LITTLE
DOUBT TODAY THAT SOMALIA, BY BACKING THE WESTERN SOMALI
LIBERATION FRONT MILITARILY, AND INDEED BY SUPPORTING

THEM WITH REGULAR FORCES AT THE SOMALI ARMY IN THE
OGADEN PROVINCE, HAS VIOLATED ETHIOPIA'S TERRITORIAL
INTEGRITY. THAT INVASION IN TURN, COMING AT A TIME
WHEN ETHIOPIA'S ARMED FORCES WERE AT THEIR WEAKEST,
PROVIDED A VALID EXCUSE FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS
ABABA TO SEEK AND OBTAIN SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY ASSISTAN-
CE FROM THE SOVIET UNION - THE SAME POWER THAT SUPPLIED
SOMALIA WITH HER PRESENT WAR MACHINE.

A SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN IS THE ROLE OF A NUMBER OF
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 07607 022011Z

NEIGHBOURING STATES, IN PARTICULAR SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT,
IRAQ AND IRAN. THE MANNER OF THEIR INTERVENTION HAS
ADDED A DISTURBING NOT TO THIS LAMENTABLE EPISODE. WE
DO NOT DISPUTE THEIR RIGHT TO SHOW CONCERN OVER THE
DIFFICULTIES FACING SOMALIA. BUT THERE ARE WAYS OF
DOING THIS, OTHER THAN THROUGH MEASURES CALCULATED
TO INCREASE MILITARY TENSION AND FURTHER ESCALATE WHAT

IS ALREADY A SENSELESS WAR. WE WOULD WISH TO SEE THEM
USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES AND INFLUENCE IN SUPPORT OF
THE OAU, ON THE SIDE OF PEACE AND RECONCILIA-

TION...

... THE STRONG RUSSIAN PRESENCE IN THE REGION HAS,
BY A DANGEROUS CHAIN REACTION, ACTIVATED THE HOSTILE
INTEREST OF THE WESTERN POWERS, ESPECIALLY THE UNI-
TED STATES, IN THIS STRATEGIC PART OF OUR CONTINENT.
AS THINGS NOW STAND, IF AFRICANS DO NOT RALLY TO
STITCH THIS WOUND, THE POSSIBILITY OF A MUCH
WIDER CONFLAGRATION COULD BECOME AN IMMEDIATE
REALITY. THE OAU CONCILIATION COMMISSION SHOULD
TAKE NOTE OF THIS OMINOUS FACT.
END EXCERPTS.
PAYEFF

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS07607
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780097-0140
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803114/aaaadtct.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eddabab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3140840
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: HORN OF AFRICA
TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, ET, SO
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eddabab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014